



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

months' time and I have written of this work only while it has been under my observation here.

I also inclose photographs of the patients, taken on admission to the hospital and again when they were removed to their new quarters.

Dr. Razlag's work has been thorough and scientific. It involves much time and labor and, perhaps, the most serious objection or rather obstacle in the way of making such work of practical value is the necessity of a physician's entire time being given up to his patients if his work is to be a success.

I trust you will find the inclosed report of some interest.

Respectfully,
Hon. ROBERT M. MCWADE,
United States Consul, Canton, China.

JOHN M. SWAN.

A report of the treatment of leprosy in Canton as conducted by Dr. Adolph Razlag, of Vienna University.

CANTON, CHINA, January 10, 1902.

The spirit of inquiry and research so active in modern times is, perhaps, nowhere more actively exercised than in the domain of medicine and surgery. This spirit of inquiry and experiment is being carried to the ends of the earth where suffering humanity is brought to feel its effects and benefits. The field of medical missions offers large opportunities for the observation and study of diseases and the practical application of modern methods of treatment. Appreciating this fact, Dr. Adolph Razlag, a graduate of Vienna University, who for the past five years has been making a careful study of certain tropical diseases, applied to those in charge of the Medical Missionary Society's Hospital for advice and aid as to the best means of obtaining unrestricted conditions for the treatment of patients suffering from leprosy. Dr. Razlag stated that in various countries where he had studied and successfully treated this dread disease he had found great difficulty in securing favorable conditions; also, that he had seldom been situated where he could obtain the bona fide testimony of physicians as to the results of treatment. After consultation with other physicians of Canton, and with the approval of the board of managers of this hospital, it was decided to render all possible aid to Dr. Razlag. Accommodations quite isolated from the resident portion of the hospital were provided for Dr. Razlag, and 4 leper patients selected from the leper village to the east of Canton City were admitted and placed under strict quarantine. Two of these cases were far advanced and about the worst that could be found in the leper refuge which has 1,000 inmates. The following points are taken from the history of these patients:

1. Sun Taz Lun; age, 27; occupation, farmer; former residence, Kowloom; no evidence of hereditary disease. Eleven years ago, right foot showed signs of leprosy; two years later ulceration began, followed by general infection. Present condition, large nodular macula, copper colored, on face and extremities. Lower extremities markedly cedematous and extensive ulceration involves almost the entire surface of the legs and feet, from which there is a discharge of 5 or 6 ounces thin acrid pus daily. Glands much enlarged; patient can hardly stand or walk; almost complete aphasia.

2. Chau Hi; age, 23; residence, Canton; occupation, teacher. Ten years ago leper spot appeared on left elbow, followed later by general infection with glandular enlargement. Present condition shows usual signs of general infection, large nodular macula, leonine expression, and a deep perforating ulcer on bottom of foot. No hereditary history.

3. Li Tsang; age, 28; residence, Canton; occupation, laborer. Thirteen years ago lepra manifestations began on face and gradual general infection followed. Anæsthesia marked. No hereditary history. Present condition of face and extremities cedematous, rheumatic pains, and the other usual signs of general infection.

4. Tsik Yeung; age, 17; residence, village near Canton; occupation, laborer. Eight years ago anæsthesia and lepra spots on extremities, followed with general infection with the usual signs. This patient was received one week after the others.

These patients were required to bathe and appear in clean clothing, and as soon as admitted were again put through a cold bath with Condy's fluid, new clothing given to them, and old clothing and effects burned. From time of entrance every possible source of reinfection was rigidly guarded against, the premises being kept scrupulously clean and each patient required to keep his own apartment with no interchange of towels, furniture, etc. An abundant supply of wholesome food was provided three times daily, and as far as possible the patients were required to remain in the open air. Twice daily a general cold bath strongly impregnated with ether potass. permanganate or liq. calcis sulph. was administered. In 1 case only (No. 1) a large mass of indurated saphenous glands was removed from each thigh.

In this brief description it will not be possible to give the course of treatment, which is yet incomplete, in detail. The treatment varied in each case and was changed frequently, according as symptoms required. Only standard remedies of the pharmacopœia were used. The following outline shows the general course of treatment:

1. Local. General cold baths followed by bath medicated with potass. permang. or double-strength liq. calcis sulph., each bath being followed by friction of the indurated surfaces (no massage or subcutaneous injections were used). Abraded or broken surfaces were treated with peroxide of hydrogen, sozo-iodol, liq. arsenitis, liq. zinci chlor. ung. sulphoicthyl ammon. ung. hydrarg. chrysarobin, the strength and application of these remedies varying according to the symptoms present and only to perfectly clean surfaces.

2. Internal or constitutional. Excretory organs kept active, special attention paid to digestive disturbances. Administration of acid arsen. and sulpho-icthyl ammon. in pill form. Ferri ammon. cit. et strychn., sodii iodide, salicyl. sodii., the remedies used being pushed to their full physiological effect. The treatment was personally supervised by Dr. Razlag several hours each day, a capable native helper being always at hand to assist in the work.

Photograph No. 1 shows the appearance of these patients when they were placed under treatment. Photograph 2 was taken after a month's treatment. After eight days distinct improvement was manifest. Skin was somewhat softened, sensation showed signs of returning, and ulcerating surfaces showed healthy granulations with marked tendency to heal. Patients declared they felt much better. After a month's treatment the improved condition of each patient was proportionate with that shown during the first week. Pain and œdema had largely disappeared except on the most indurated surfaces, extensive ulcerated surfaces were quite healed and the patients were rejoicing over their improved condition.

After a month's treatment an opportunity occurred through the exertion of Consul McWade to place these patients in new buildings connected with the village for lepers, but quite isolated and as yet unused by anyone. This opportunity and the absence of Dr. Razlag for a short time had made it advisable to remove the patients from their temporary residence at the hospital to the new quarters. Bath arrangements, special attendant, and all facilities for continuing the treatment were also transferred as it must be kept on for at least three or four months longer.

Remarks.—As a result of repeated observation of Dr. Razlag's faithful and self-denying work on behalf of these patients we may conclude that lepra is unquestionably largely amenable to treatment. Treatment is practically symptomatic and should generally be continued for five or six months. Success depends on method, strength, and effective application of the remedies used. Each case must be studied and symptoms met in proper order. Sudden changes in the weather affect course and progress of disease. Closure of wounds increases the eruption temporarily.

Dr. Razlag does not claim a radical cure for lepra, but states that the worst case may be cured to such an extent as will allow perfect liberty of the patients, and his efficient work done under the observation of a number of the Canton physicians bears out this statement. The following physicians observed these cases while under treatment and saw the results obtained: Dr. Webb Anderson, Dr. Townsend, Dr. Thos. McCloy, Dr. C. C. Selden, Dr. Shumaker, and the surgeon in charge of the hospital; also several gentlemen in the foreign community.

It is but fair to state that Dr. Razlag has conducted this work at practically his own expense, and with a devotion shown only by those who believe in the object to be obtained and the great possibilities before us for relieving the most distressed cases of suffering humanity. Dr. Razlag is grateful for the help and privileges granted by the Medical Missionary Society's Hospital, and states that they far exceed those he has ever received elsewhere. For months he lived in a shack in the Sandwich Islands isolated from the world while studying and treating lepra patients, and he therefore the more appreciates the assistance that has been rendered him by Consul McWade, Viceroy Tao, the board of managers of the Canton hospital, and the various physicians resident in Canton.

This is but a hastily written general report of the work Dr. Razlag has been engaged in. Later on we may hope for a further report as to the final results of the treatment now being continued in these cases.

JOHN M. SWAN,
Surgeon in charge of the Medical Missionary Society's Hospital.

I earnestly hope that my action in the foregoing matter meets with your approval.

Respectfully,

ROBERT M. MCWADE,
United States Consul.

The ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.